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Claimed The Monitor
See Page 8

Carolina Country

June 1983

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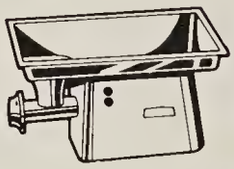

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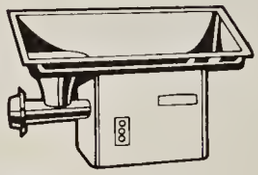

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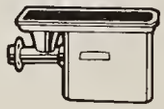

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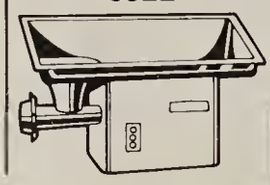

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VIEWPOINT

A Startling Resurgence Of Poverty

The statistic is startling: Nearly one in every five North Carolinians lives at or below the poverty level, and it's getting worse.

That's just one disconcerting finding of a new report on poverty from the N.C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development. And it compels the state's top officers, its legislators and local officials to face up to the fact that poverty is on the increase again after a long period of decline.

In 1959, nearly 40 percent of the state's populace was in poverty, compared with 22 percent nationally. By 1979, less than 15 percent of North Carolina's population was at or below the poverty level, compared with 12.5 percent nationally.

In the last four years, however, that trend has reversed, and the state estimates that 18 percent—or more than one million people—are poverty-struck. The poverty level these days is defined as an urban family of four with an income of $9,300 or less, or a farm family with income of $7,910 or less.

The poverty trend's alarming reversal means that many gains of the late sixties and seventies have been wiped out. How did it happen? Because the poor of yesterday and the poor of today are different.

In the past, the poverty-afflicted were most often a husband-and-wife team, most often minorities. Job training programs helped them move out of the poverty cycle.

Reprinted from the Greensboro Daily News.

But today women head the majority of the households mired in poverty, a trend the report calls the "feminization of poverty." And more than one-third of the poverty households are headed by people over 65.

These trends suggest the traditional "jobs" solution that worked so well in the past won't apply to nearly half the households in poverty. The poor often are either too old to work or they are incapacited.

Nearly one in every five North Carolinians lives at or below the poverty level and it's getting worse

Why has the poverty rate worsened? A combination of factors, having to do with the rise of divorce and separation, compounded by an economic recession and huge federal budget cutbacks. According to the report, North Carolina lost more than $120 million in federal funds last year for assistance for the poor.

In addition, North Carolina's poor aren't getting all the help they could. For one thing, there is no one state agency whose job it is to develop policy and operate programs designd to reduce poverty. Those functions are scattered among a number of state agencies.

The report recommends several remedial steps, including creation of an Advisory Council on Poverty and designation of one major state agency to take responsibility for developing anti-poverty programs and giving them direction. That agency and council should direct their efforts to problems of the elderly and female poor.

Unfortunately, federal and state budget strictures will make it more difficult to attack the poverty scourge. The report suggests expanded "monitoring efforts" to determine the impact of budget cuts, and calls for expanded financing for aid to the poor and for adequate housing and health care.

The prospects for realizing those goals are limited at best. But any move to develop a statewide policy aimed at reducing poverty is at least a step in the right direction. The state should take it without delay.

In This Issue . . .

8 Atlantic's "Graveyard" Claimed The *Monitor*

10 Conservation Pilot Program Assists Non-profit Groups

14 Washington Scene

18 Mailbox

24 An Eye-Pleasing New Look At Cancer

26 Grits

8

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Morton Retires

Clayborne Takes Reins At Carteret-Craven EMC

H. Eugene Clayborne of Newport, who has been part of the management team at the Carteret-Craven Electrical Membership Corporation in Morehead City since 1974, has been named general manager of the cooperative.

He succeeds B. F. Morton Jr., who retired May 31 after a 33-year career in the North Carolina rural electric program.

Clayborne

Morton

Morton joined Carteret-Craven in January, 1950, after having worked a few months at Jones-Onslow EMC, Jacksonville.

During his career at Carteret-Craven, the Onslow County native held four different management positions, becoming manager in October, 1973.

Since then, the co-op has grown from a 36-employee operation serving 11,000 consumer-members on 772 miles of line to a system serving 19,000 members on 1,117 miles of line with 54 employees.

In addition, Morton has been active in the statewide organization of EMCs, serving as a member of the board of its materials supply arm, Tarheel Electric Membership Association.

He has served as vice-president and president of that nine-member board. He also served as a member of the board of the N.C. Association of Electric Cooperatives and a number of its committees.

Clayborne, a Pitt County native, is a graduate of East Carolina University with a degree in business administration.

He began his rural electric career when he joined Carteret-Craven in 1974. He held two management positions before taking the manager's post.

Prior to joining the co-op, he was with the N.C. Department of Revenue.

He is married to the former Hazel Cannon of Ayden. They have three children and one grandchild.

Dorris White Appointed Albemarle EMC Manager

A veteran of 37 years as an employee of Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation, Hertford, has been named general manager of the cooperative.

She is Dorris B. White, who had served as office manager for the past several years.

Mrs. White succeeds Edward E. Brown Jr., who resigned to join the staff of Chugach Electric Association, Anchorage, Alaska, an electric cooperative serving 55,000 members.

She had served as acting manager since Brown resigned in March.

Mrs. White, a Perquimans County native, becomes the first woman to serve as manager of an electric cooperative in North Carolina. And, she becomes the eighth woman manager in the U.S. rural electric program.

A graduate of Campbell Junior College, she is married to Charles White, a farmer. They have three children.

Hunt Named Manager At Lumbee River EMC

A Robeson County native has been named general manager of Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation, Red Springs.

He is Ronnie Hunt, who had served as interim manager since December. He joined the cooperative in 1977 as office manager. Since then, he has served as manager of administrative services, manager of office and staff services and assistant general manager.

A business administration graduate of Pembroke State University, Hunt is married to the former Loretta Hunt of Robeson County, a fifth grade school teacher. They have two children.

Hunt succeeds Derl Hinson, who had served as the co-op's general manager since 1974.

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Rural Electric Officials Meet With Tar Heel Congressional Delegation

About 80 representatives of North Carolina Electric Membership Corporations called on members of the Tar Heel congressional delegation recently to discuss pending legislation affecting the rural electric program. Visiting with Second District Rep. I.T. (Tim) Valentine, seated, are, from the left, Rudolph Sexton, manager of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC, Tarboro; Alice Wilson and W. Kitchin Benson, both directors of Edgecombe-Martin EMC; Della Tucker, assistant secretary of the board at Edgecombe-Martin EMC; Pat Markas of the N.C. Association of Electric Cooperatives; James Ellen, manager of Halifax EMC, Enfield; David Proctor and A.G. Willcox Jr., both directors of Halifax EMC.

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And be sure to install the antenna where it won't fall on wires if it should be blown down in a storm.

This is a reminder from your EMC—when you're dealing with electricity, don't put your life on the line.

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FCX Official Gets NCSU Alumni Award

Brantley DeLoatche of Durham, senior vice-president and assistant general manager of FCX Inc., has been presented the 1983 Distinguished Alumnus Award of the School of Agriculture and Life Sciences at North Carolina State University.

DeLoatche, who received his bachelor's degree in agricultural education in 1942, joined Central Carolina Farmers, Durham in 1949 and served as that cooperative's general manager from 1967 until it merged with FCX in 1980.

He is currently serving as president of the N.C. Agribusiness Council.

Senior Citizens Can Get Free Theatre Tickets

Complimentary tickets are available for senior citizens to attend performances of 16 summer theatre programs—if they attend in groups of 20 or more.

The tickets are offered through the Governor's Complimentary Ticket Program, which is coordinated by the Department of Cultural Resources.

Each theatre involved has a specified number of available tickets and dates of performances available to senior citizens.

The companies participating in the program this summer are:

Actor's Contemporary Ensemble, Charlotte; "Blackbeard: Knight of the Black Flag," Bath; Curtain Call Company, Wilmington; East Carolina Summer Theatre, Greenville.

"First For Freedom," Halifax; Flat Rock Playhouse, Flat Rock; "From This Day Forward," Valdese; "Horn In The West," Boone; "The Liberty Cart," Kenansville.

"Listen and Remember," Waxhaw; N.C. Shakespeare Festival, High Point; "The Lost Colony," Manteo; Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre, Mars Hill; "Strike At The Wind," Pembroke; "The Sword of Peace," Snow Camp; "Unto These Hills," Cherokee.

For more information, contact Judy Chavis (919) 733-2111. For reservations, contact Shirley Ward, (919) 733-3983.

July 4th Festivities Scheduled In Halifax

Living history demonstrations, a performance of an outdoor drama, blue grass music with cloggers and tours of historic buildings will be highlights of this year's Fourth of July festivities in Halifax.

Special children's programs are also planned for the day, including a catch-the-greased-pig contest.

Barbecued beef, hot dogs and other foods will be served at the site beginning at 5 p.m., with the outdoor drama "First in Freedom" scheduled to be performed at 7 p.m.

For more information about the festivities, write or call Janna Draper, P.O. Box 246, Roanoke Rapids, N.C. 27870. Phone: 537-9146.

Summer Reading Program Set In State's Libraries

A fiddlin'grasshopper named "AZ" will serve as the symbol of the 1983 Summer Reading Program for children at local libraries across the state.

The grasshopper takes his name from the theme for the reading program: "Adventures A to Z."

He and other animal characters were created by Dorothy Daye of the Greensboro Public Library to decorate program materials.

Children participating in the program will receive the materials supplied by the State Library, including reading records, bookmarks, activity sheets and decals with the animal motif. Each child completing local requirements will receive a certificate with the signature of Gov. James B. Hunt Jr.

Ten Elected To EMC Board Seats

Nine incumbents and one newcomer were elected to the Boards of Directors of three North Carolina Electric Membership Corporations during recent co-op Annual Meetings:

- Harkers Island EMC — Elected to the board for the first time was Adrain M. Willis of Harkers Island. Re-elected were James T. Gillikin and George G. Barton, both of Harkers Island.
- South River EMC, Dunn — Re-elected were Bynum Jackson of Rt. 1, Godwin; E. E. Fisher of Rt. 1, Stedman; Kesler C. Butler of Rt. 7, Fayetteville and Peter J. Baker of Rt. 1, Hope Mills.
- Halifax EMC, Enfield — Re-elected were Marion R. Smith of Rt. 1, Oak City; A. C. Cox Jr. of Rt. 3, Enfield and Leon Williams of Rt. 3, Warrenton.

Cover: Atlantic Beach

We're endebted to the N.C. Travel and Tourism Division for the use of this photo of Atlantic Beach by Chip Henderson. It originally appeared in the division's booklet *North Carolina: Down Home in High Style.*

Women's Show Poster Competition Slated

The NCNB Corporation is sponsoring a poster competition in conjunction with the Southern Women's Show, which is scheduled for Oct. 6-9 in Charlotte.

Women artists, 18 years and older, who are residents of the Southern states are invited to design a poster promoting the consumer exhibition. NCNB will provide more than $1,500 in prize money for the competition.

Entries will be judged on quality, originality and appropriateness.

Entry forms are available from the Southern Women's Show, P.O. Box 36859, Charlotte, N.C. 28236. Submissions must be received no later than July 15.

Marshall Re-appointed To Energy Agency Board

The manager of South River Electric Membership Corporation, Dunn, has been appointed to a third term on the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Alternative Energy Corporation.

Marvin O. Marshall was reappointed to the state agency's board by North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation, the power supply operation of the statewide EMC organization.

Alternative Energy Agency was established in April, 1980, by the State Utilities Commission as a quasi-public corporation to develop alternative energy sources, including solar, wind, wood, biomass and conservation.

It is financed entirely by the state's power suppliers with policies set by a 13-member board made up of seven directors representing the public and six representing the suppliers.

Marshall, who is president of the N.C. EMC Board of Directors, has been with South River EMC since 1968.

July 4th Celebration Planned In Old Salem

The 200th anniversary of America's first Fourth of July observance by legislative enactment will be held at Old Salem in Winston-Salem on July 4.

The celebration will closely follow the events that took place in 1783 in Salem, now a restored 217-year-old Moravian congregation town.

On May 16 of that year, the North Carolina General Assembly adopted a resolution recommending that July 4 be observed as a day of thanksgiving for peace. A month later, Gov. Alexander Martin issued a proclamation encouraging the state's citizens to observe a holiday on July 4.

It is believed that the Moravians in the Wachovia settlements in what is now Winston-Salem were the only North Carolinians to respond to the proclamation.

Among the activities planned for the 200th anniversary of the first July Fourth celebration at Old Salem are:

- Traditional service of Home Moravian Church in the restored town at 8:30 a.m. in front of Main Hall at Salem College. The worship service will include band music, singing and the reading of the Declaration of Independence.
- Patriotic band music begins at 10 a.m. on Salem Square, and will be followed at 11 a.m. by a public meeting and special ceremonies featuring guest speakers.
- A lovefeast in Home Moravian Church, a worship service during which the congregation will share a simple meal of coffee and buns, is scheduled at 2:30 p.m.
- The traditional torchlight procession around Salem Square will conclude the day-long observance. The procession begins at 9 p.m. featuring costumed men, women and children playing the roles of the 1783 townspeople.

Home Folks

Five journalists with North Carolina ties have been inducted into the N.C. Journalism Hall of Fame sponsored by the UNC-CH School of Journalism. They are **W. Horace Carter,** Pulitzer Prize winner and former editor of *The Tabor City Tribune;* **Roger Mudd,** NBC news correspondent; **William D. Snider,** retired editor of the *Greensboro Daily News and Record;* the late **Harry Golden,** founder and editor of *The Carolina Israelite* and **Walter Spearman,** professor emeritus of journalism at UNC-CH. . . . . **Roy D. Wilkins** of Rt. 2, Columbus, has been named to the Board of Directors of Rutherford Electric Membership Corporation, Forest City. He succeeds **Oliver Taylor** of Rt. 1, Mill Spring, who resigned after serving on the board for 36 years. . . . . **Jimmie L. McDonnal,** manager of Sally Mac Farms, Monroe, has been elected Region II vice-president of the National Cattlemen's Association. . . . . **John F. Blair,** who had been an independent publisher in Winston-Salem since 1954, has been honored by the North Carolinian Society for his support and preservation of the historical, literary and cultural heritage of North Carolina. It was the sixth North Carolina Award to be presented by the society, which promotes increased knowledge of the state's literary and historical resources. . . . . .The Rev. **Howard G. Dawkins** of Greenville has been presented with the Distinguished Service Award of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped.

The ironclad warship *U.S.S. Monitor* sank off the North Carolina coast in 1862 while being towed to Beaufort for an attack on Wilmington.

Atlantic's "Graveyard" Claimed The *Monitor*

"The *Monitor* is no more. What the fire of the enemy failed to do, the elements have accomplished."

Those are the words of W. F. Keeler, paymaster of the ironclad warship *U.S.S. Monitor*, as he wrote of the ship's demise in a letter to his wife.

He was fortunate to survive to tell of the ship's sinking, which claimed the lives of 16 men on Dec. 31, 1862, off the North Carolina coast.

Built in Brooklyn to counter Confederate efforts in building armor-plated ships, the *Monitor* was launched in January, 1862, and towed to Hampton Roads, Va.

That's where the vessel was engaged in the first-ever battle between ironclad warships. For four hours, the *Monitor* and the Confederate ironclad *Merrimack*, shook off each other's volleys.

The historic battle ended in a stalemate, but the age of wooden warships had ended.

Later that year the *Monitor* was being towed to Beaufort, N.C., to join in a land and sea attack on Wilmington. Although the *Monitor* left Norfolk under tow behind the *Rhode Island* in calm, clear weather, conditions deteriorated off Cape Hatteras in the treacherous Diamond Shoals area.

By 7:30 on the evening of December 29, 1862, the port hawser had parted causing the ironclad to tow badly. By 9:15 p.m. the vessel was taking on water. At 11:00 p.m. a red lantern signaling "distress" was hung from the warship's turrent. By 11:30 p.m. rescue boats from the *Rhode Island* were headed to the sinking ship.

At about 1:00 p.m. on Dec. 31, "about 25 miles south of Cape Hatteras . . . depth of water 30 fathoms," the *Monitor* sank.

In 1973, researchers using the Duke University research vessel *Eastward*, located the *Monitor* southeast of Cape Hatteras in water 220 feet deep. The wreck lies bottom up. Its gun turret, which dislodged during capsize, settled under the port quarter.

Follow-up expeditions resulted in the designation of the ocean floor at and around the *Monitor* shipwreck as the nation's first national marine sanctuary.

—*Gwen White*

Ironclad's Artifacts Now On Exhibit

Artifacts from the historic ironclad vessel *Monitor* are currently on exhibit at the North Carolina Marine Resources Centers at Roanoke Island near Manteo, at Bogue Banks near Atlantic Beach and at Ft. Fisher.

Admission to the centers is free of charge. In addition to the artifacts exhibit, they feature various other exhibits on coastal natural history and culture as well as large aquariums with native fish and marine life.

The centers are open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and from 1 to 5 p.m. on weekends.

Oil Spills Along The Tar Heel Coast: Grave Markers For Lost WWII Tankers

While the U.S.S. Monitor *sank off North Carolina's coast 100 years ago (see story, opposite page), ships from another war also found their final resting places in the Atlantic near Tar Heel shores. In the process, they often left some ugly grave markers along those shores.*

Many North Carolinians are concerned that Interior Secretary James Watt's proposal for granting offshore oil-drilling leases could mean that our state's beaches will inevitably be covered with a black "mess" from time to time.

If that's the case, it wouldn't be the first time—for oil spills along our shoreline were a common sight during World War II, but they were courtesy of offshore torpedoes rather than drill rigs.

In the early years of the war, the U-boats of the German Navy ranged close to America's shores and one of their main targets was oil tankers.

Adolph Hitler and his admirals believed that a great industrial power like the U.S. could be brought to its knees if it should be deprived of gasoline and oil. If this goal had been accomplished, the Nazi judgement might have been proven correct.

Tankers in those days were much smaller than current models, but they still carried a great volume of crude oil. This was the substance that caused the damage on our beaches.

The tankers would be hauling crude either from the Texas-Louisiana area or from Aruba or Venezuela to refineries along our North Atlantic coast.

The U-boat commanders were deadly shots. Most often they would remain submerged off our coast and fire their torpedoes when the familiar outline of a tanker or large cargo ship would appear in their periscope sights. Sometimes at night, or when it appeared certain no U.S. destroyers or planes were posing any threat, they would also surface and sink an unarmed ship with their powerful five-inch deck guns.

"In the early years of the war, the U-boats of the German Navy ranged close to America's shores and one of their main targets was oil tankers"

But they would have two sailors with binoculars in the conning tower, to give the alarm if a bomber should suddenly appear. Then they would crash dive and wait to hear the crash of the depth bombs.

They sank a vast tonnage of ships.

As the war progressed, U.S. defense improved and the oil slicks on North Carolina beaches became fewer and fewer.

The tankers were equipped with deck guns and other floating "sub targets," as crew members jokingly called them.

Meanwhile, a deadly defense was provided by the fat, slow aircraft known as the blimp. Moving slowly through the sky, a blimp could spot the dark shadow of a sub even beneath the surface. By matching its speed and course to that of the U-boat, it could drop a couple of "ash cans" (depth charges that looked something like a conventional garbage can) almost on top of the sub.

So the Germans lost submarines, including their highly-trained crews, and American tankers soon had a much better chance of making an entire trip without incident.

But many a North Carolina family, visiting Nag's Head or Carolina or Wrightsville Beach in the summers of 1942-43-44, often had to hunt for a section of clean beach for bathing, avoiding those ugly black smears that marked the "graves" of lost tankers.

—*Frank Jeter Jr.*

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Lumbee River EMC Involved

Conservation Pilot Program Assists Non-profit Groups

With all the state and federal programs of recent years, homeowners, businesses and industry have had lots of help with energy conservation, and it has paid off in lower consumption.

But all those programs have left non-profit organizations literally out in the cold.

That's why the North Carolina Alternative Energy Corporation, with the help of Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation, Red Springs, has launched a pilot program to make energy conservation improvements to buildings used by nonprofit organizations.

The program, which is being tried in the Lumbee River EMC service area on an experimental basis, is being funded through the N.C. AEC-supported N.C. Conservation Fund.

If the experiment proves successful, the fund will begin working with organizations, business and industry to raise money for a statewide project of this kind.

> **This is the first program of its type in the nation**

As it stands now, the Conservation Fund works through a local agency such as Lumbee River to allot up to $750 in grant funds for a qualifying organization. The money must be used for materials such as insulation, caulking, weatherstripping and storm doors. The organizations must supply volunteer labor for the installation of these materials.

Earlier this year, the alternative energy agency and the cooperative teamed up to pick 21 organizations within the EMC's service area for the program.

They included 18 churches and three community centers.

As the sponsoring agency, the cooperative appointed Manager of Special Services John O'Briant as project coordinator and employees Danny Brock and Percy Hubbard as special energy auditors. The cooperative also set up a project office at its headquarters in Red Springs.

O'Briant has been directing the work, handling the grant money and purchasing the materials in bulk to save money.

Brock and Hubbard did an extensive energy audit of all 21 buildings, producing a report on what was needed and how much it will cost. Now, they're inspecting the installation work of the volunteers, who recently learned the right way to do the work at a workshop sponsored by the program.

The employee time and effort is minimal compared to the good the project can do for co-op members, said Lane Hudson, communications assistant for Lumbee River.

"This is the first program of its type in the nation," he said. "It seems to be a good, positive program."

Much of the work on the 21 buildings has already been completed, without any major snags.

Mary Ellen Taylor, associate director of the alternative energy agency, said Lumbee River was picked to help test the program because state officials have confidence in the cooperative's ability to handle programs of this type.

Lumbee River will be keeping a close eye on the energy requirements of the 21 buildings over the next few months to determine just how much the improvements actually save in energy costs. The results will go a long way toward determining whether the project will be extended statewide in the months ahead.

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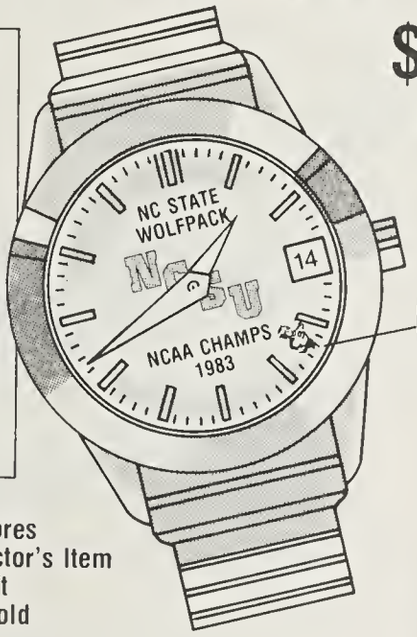

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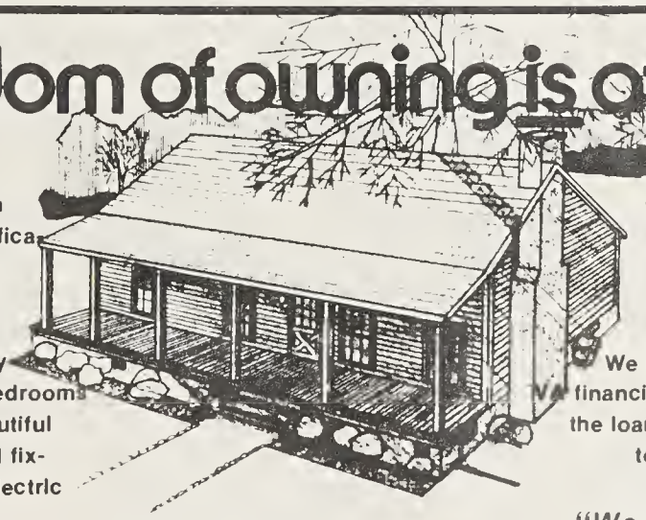

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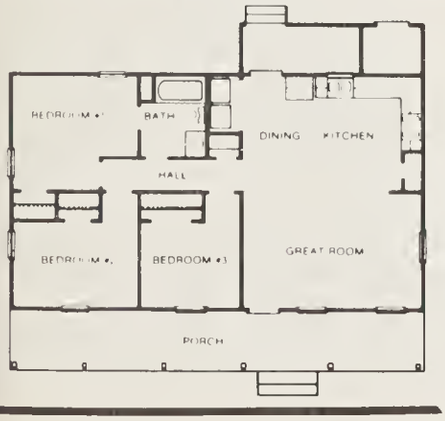

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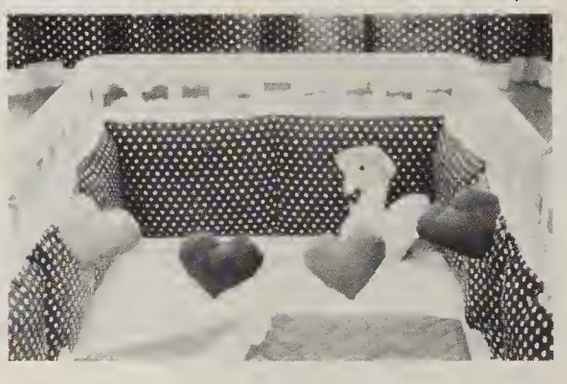

COUNTRY KITCHEN

Want To Share Your Recipes?

If you would like to share a recipe with this column, send it to: CAROLINA COUNTRY, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC 27611.

We pay $5 for published recipes and present each monthly winner a set of 50 recipe cards with the winning recipe printed on them.

SNOW PEA QUICHE

Submitted by Donna Johnson of Cary

1 unbaked pie shell
1/2 lb. bacon, fried and crumbled
1 sm. onion, chopped
1 c. snow peas
1 c. shredded Swiss cheese and/or mozarella
3 lg. eggs (or 4 sm.)
1 c. whipping cream plus 1/2 c. milk or evaporated milk
3/4 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. sugar
1/8 tsp. cayenne pepper

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Sprinkle bacon, onion and peas in pie shell. Sprinkle cheese over vegetables. In mixer, beat remaining ingredients until well blended. Pour over vegetables in pie shell. Bake 15 minutes. Reduce oven to 300 degrees. Bake 30 minutes longer or until the center is set.

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WASHINGTON SCENE

Tar Heel Freshmen Settling In To Their Congressional Roles

When the dust had settled after the 1982 elections, North Carolina found that it had three brand new members of Congress—elected in the Democratic Party's comeback after the shellacking it took at the polls in the Reagan landslide of 1980.

These three were a significant part of the new freshman crop of 26 Democratic neophytes who entered Congress as the 98th session started at the beginning of this year and settled in for two years of work.

The three are Tim Valentine of the Second District, C. Robin Britt of the Sixth and James McClure Clarke of the Eleventh.

They have much in common but each is different and each is distinctly a product of the area where he lives.

Valentine and Britt are lawyers and both have been very active in the North Carolina Democratic Party—especially Valentine, who has served as chairman.

All are well educated and all have been active leaders in the affairs of their own communities. Clarke, for instance, served seven years as chairman of his county school board.

For the past five months all three have been busy getting settled in as members of Congress, testing the waters and starting to stake out positions of influence. Each has assembled a staff, gotten his committee assignments and started work on the day-to-day business of legislation and attending to requests from constituents back home.

Each has professed to be happy in his new position, and each finds the task interesting, challenging and demanding.

On one thing all agree. They have been agreeably surprised by the capability of the new class of legislators who joined them as members of the 1982 freshman class.

"I have found the group of new members very intelligent as well as very pragmatic," Britt said, and the other two echoed that sentiment.

"They are a group who sees a big job and they want to go about getting it done," Clarke said.

Recent interviews with them demonstrated just how three North Carolinians have gone about adjusting to their new careers as members of the nation's highest legislative body—the United States Congress.

James McClure (Jamie) Clarke lists his home as Fairview, a small mountain town a few miles from Asheville. He lists his occupation as a "dairy farm and apple orchard operator," which indeed he is. He looks like a man who has lived close to the soil. But if you look further, you will find that the 65-year-old Clarke is a former newspaper editor *(Asheville Citizen Times)* and a former college administrative official.

On this day, as he sits in his office on the fourth floor of the Cannon Building, Jamie Clarke is

worried—about Interior Secretary James Watt and his avowed intention of selling off public land, of which there is plenty in Clarke's Eleventh District.

"This has aroused people back home more than any other one thing," Clarke said. "I go back there every weekend, and that is the subject I invariably hear. People will come up to me and want to discuss this situation, and practically everyone is against what Mr. Watt wants to do."

Clarke is making his home in the District of Columbia. Each weekend, he flies back to Asheville to keep his political fences mended and to talk and listen to his friends and neighbors who sent him to Washington.

His children are grown and out on their own, except for one son who manages the farm and the orchards. His apples are marketed at a retail roadside operation at his farm.

Clarke was assigned to the committees on Interior and Transportation, and he feels especially happy that he was placed on the Interior Committee.

"I am on the subcommittee on Public Lands and National Parks," he said with some satisfaction and the hint of a smile.

He indicated that as a member of that committee and that subcommittee he might—just might—be able to do something about James Watt and the business of being unkind to the nation's public lands.

"It seems to me to be a case of getting a little money for a one-time thing, and it's just not worth it."

Although Watt and his intentions may be Clarke's most immediate concern, he says that arms control is the number one problem facing this country.

"We have to get some sort of control on the nuclear arms race and start to reduce the number of these arms," he said, "because if we

can't do that, anything else we do might not mean very much."

He also believes the economy is our number one domestic problem and that the huge projected budget deficits of the next few years must be brought down. He feels that the third year of the Reagan tax cut could be eliminated along with future tax indexing, which was designed to help taxpayers ease the pains of inflation.

"The deficits are entirely out of line," he said, "and we will have to do something about them. For one thing, we have to cut waste and pork barrel projects as much as posible."

Tim Valentine is from Nashville, the county seat of Nash County in the eastern sector of the state and he was elected to represent the Second District after L.H. Fountain, the veteran member from that district, decided to retire at the end of the 97th Congress.

Valentine is a lawyer who has long been active in North Carolina politics. In addition to serving in the state legislature, he served as chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee in 1966-68 and as counsel to Gov. Dan Moore in 1967.

As he sits in his office in the Longworth Building, he seems very comfortable in his new position as a member of the nation's highest legislative body. He can even joke about it.

In answer to a question as to how he likes his new job, he replied with a laugh: "Well, the hours are long but there's not much lifting."

His office seems to be functioning well and he says that's because he has brought in some new people but has retained others who have had experience in Congress and know how it works. One very experienced person on his staff is his administrative assistant, Ted Daniel, who held a similar post for many years with Fountain.

Valentine says that he has had one "pleasant surprise" during this session. That was the ease with which Congress saved the Social Security system.

"I was extremely pleased with that," he said, "because I feel that we guaranteed the solvency of Social Security far down the road."

What does he see as the biggest problem confronting the Congress: the deficit.

"The real problem," he said, "is whether we are going to have the courage to cut the deficits and get the national budget more closely into balance. I campaigned on a pledge to help balance the budget and I am just as committed to that now."

Valentine, a widower, lives in a modest apartment not far from his office. But he's not at the apartment much. Almost every weekend he is back in the Second District.

When he's in Washington, he spends most of his time in his office, on the floor of the House, or in one of his committees—Public Works and Transportation and Sciences and Technology.

Robin Britt is the youngest of the three new Congressmen and his district, which contains Greensboro and High Point, is more urban than those of the other two.

Britt, a 41-year-old attorney, is a resident of Greensboro and before his election was partner of a prominent law firm there. He won his seat in Congress by defeating Gene Johnston, a Republican who was elected in the Reagan 1980 landslide.

Long active in the Democratic party, Britt served as county party chairman until 1981, was a delegate to the 1980 national Democratic convention, and is a former member of the state Democratic Executive Committee.

Because his district is more metropolitan, Britt has more people unemployed in his district than do Valentine or Clarke.

"Textiles and furniture, which are big in the Sixth District have been hit by the economic recession," he said. "Things seem to be getting better, however, especially in the furniture industry. This year's furniture show in High Point drew a fine crowd."

Britt sees the economy as the number one problem in the country and also cites the federal budget deficits as something we can't live with.

"There has to be some restraint in spending," he said, "but we have cut domestic spending about as much as we can. I would think that President Reagan will get about a five percent increase in military spending when Congress gets through with the budget."

Five percent would be one-half of the increase the White House has requested.

Britt also feels that more revenues are needed, but he doubts that Congress will eliminate the third year of the Reagan income tax cut.

But Britt believes the best economic medicine is a strong recovery and the restoration of confidence among consumers and the business community.

"That's what we have to work for," he said.

Britt, who also spends his weekends back home in North Carolina, is serving on the Small Business committee and the Armed Services committee, where his experiences as a U.S. Naval Reserve commander will prove useful.

The latter committee is especially important, he said, because of the current battle over military spending.

"We can't just throw money at the Defense Department," Britt said, "but we do have to consider the Russian arms build-up."

"It seems to me we must work hard for arms control, but we must do it in two phases. We must negotiate, surely, but we also must arm ourselves so that our adversaries are willing to sit down and talk seriously. We must negotiate but we must be tough as well."

An old hillbilly took a wagonload of produce to the market and received more than he expected to for it. He decided to buy some new clothes and he hid them under the seat.

On his way home, he came to a bridge and pulled on the reins, saying, "Whoa, Maude. Let's put on these new duds and surprise the old woman."

He proceeded to discard his old clothes into the river. When he reached under the seat, the new clothes were gone. He scratched his head for a few moments and then said, "Giddap, Maude. We'll just surprise her anyhow."

In a traveling circus there was a bearded lady named Peggy. She fell in love with the handsome circus strongman, and he ardently returned her affection. Penny thought that her sweetheart would love her more, though, if she were more like other women, so one day she shaved off her beard.

The strong man never called on her again. For indeed he had loved her as she was, beard and all, and now she seemed a completely different woman to him. The moral: a Penny shaved is a Penny spurned.

• • • • • • • • • • • •

Father Robin arrived home and found Mother Robin was not in the nest. Checking the eggs, he discovered one that was definitely not his. When Ma Robin came back, he pointed to the egg and said sternly, "How come?"

She gave him a sweet smile and replied, "Oh, I just did that for a lark."

"Now are you convinced that the red lines are roads and the blue lines are rivers?"

The aviation instructor, having delivered a lecture on parachuting, concluded: "And if it doesn't open, and then your reserve chute doesn't open either—well, gentlemen, that's what is known as 'jumping to a conclusion.' "

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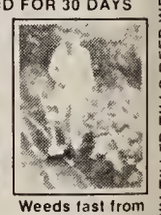
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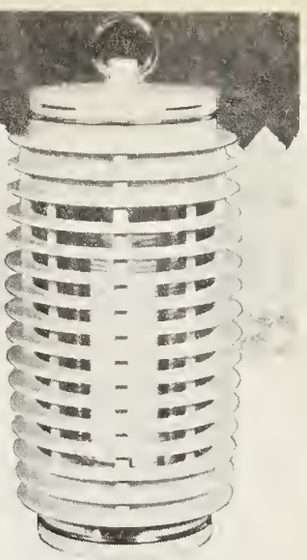
New Electronic Bug Killer Clears Your Yard of Insect Pests



Attractive, lantern-style Insect-Aside,™ 11" high and weighing 3 lbs., rids your yard or patio of mosquitoes and other harmful bugs without sprays, fogs or poisonous chemicals, U.L. listed.

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U.L. LISTED, MADE OF SHOCK-PROOF, RUSTPROOF MATERIALS

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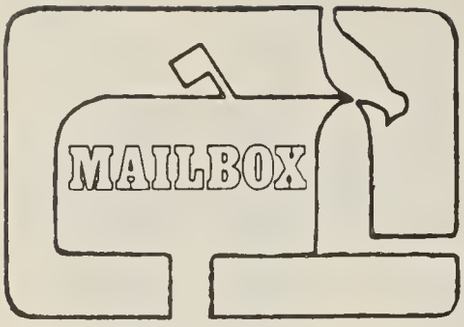

Thanks For Your Article On "Joy Of Working With Hands"

This is a long overdue note to thank you for the accurate and interesting article that you featured in your January magazine.

You made a lot of people happy by taking note of something that we never take for granted—the joy of working and creating with our hands.

Georgia Bonesteel
Hendersonville

Nothing Beats "Good Old North Carolina Cooking"

As a transplanted North Carolinian, I really enjoy your magazine. I was born in North Carolina and reared in Virginia but for the last 25 years off and on have lived in Wisconsin due to marrying a man from Wisconsin.

As much as I enjoy living in Wisconsin, it is still good to get a little touch of home in the form of your magazine. All of my family still lives in North Carolina and Virginia so much of my heart is still there.

My husband is a long-distance truck driver, and now that our only daughter is married, I travel with him. I must say that in my travels through most of the United States nothing beats good old North Carolina cooking (especially the bar-b-cue)—even the cole slaw isn't the same anywhere else.

Mrs. Lon E. Snow
Rt. 2
Greenleaf, Wis.

It's Unfair To Burden Our Unborn "So We Can Have Fun"

Regarding the February Viewpoint—"God Bless This Land"—we as Americans do have so much to be thankful and grateful for. Now there are two sides to each coin.

I would like to see your thoughts on ways to enjoy this mortgaged luxury. When I was a boy on the farm, I was taught that you didn't or was not entitled to a vacation until you had the money to pay for it. Today our mortgaged pleasure interest debt is over $2 billion a week. Just think of so much waste. I think it is most "unfair" to put such burdens around the necks of our unborn, so we can have our fun.

How can we ask God to bless our land when we don't obey his commandments? Who gets the most attention: sports or the Great Master? Where will the crowds be this weekend? On the sports field or in the Master's house? Yes, we do need recreation. However, we need to put first things first.

If you will read Galatians 6-7 and Isaiah 1:21-23 you will see where the good things come from.

In closing, let me say I always enjoy *Carolina Country*. Its contents are helpful in many ways.

Miller W. Cavin
Charlotte

Fox Hunting Dogs: "Won't They Kill Our Wildlife?"

In your April Mailbox you printed a letter written by Mrs. Jane B. Freeman concerning wildlife and fox hunting. This is a reply to Mrs. Freeman:

First, there is no closed season on taking foxes with dogs in this state. So that means fox hunters can hunt all year *and do*.

Foxes are meat eaters so they live off wildlife, also pigs, chickens, birds and just about anything else they can catch.

Your husband must be a great dog trainer to train dogs that will catch a fox and not hurt it and turn it loose. Dogs do catch foxes and any wildlife like rabbits, deer, opossum and so on. And don't you think those dogs will kill this wildlife? *They will.*

There would be a lot more wildlife if those fox dogs were *tied* from early spring until fall—and let all the young wildlife grow up, including young foxes.

Those careless hunters and trappers do not hunt and trap year-round like fox hunters.

Floyd Phillips
Bear Creek

Anti-Nuclear Arguments: "Half-Truths, Distortions"

The viewpoints expressed by Messrs. Hodges and Spicer in *Carolina Country* are typical of the environmentalist/anti-nuclear lobby. They present (again) the same worn-out half-truths and distortions that have been used by the anti-nukes in their relentless campaign against the U.S. commercial nuclear power programs.

Several of their more blatant distortions deserve comment as follows:

- The approximately 30 tons per year of spent fuel from a 1,000-megawatt nuclear power plant is accorded much more care with regard to the environment than the approximately 1.5 million tons of waste produced in one year's operation of a 1,000-megawatt coal-fired power plant.
- Political foot-dragging and opposition from the Nader/Fonda/Caldicott clan and their brethren *have* seriously delayed implementation of a sound nuclear waste disposal program. Many environmentalist/anti-nuclear groups lobbied heavily against the recent nuclear waste legislation mandated by the U.S. Congress. One wonders if the anti-nukes *really* want the waste disposal problem solved.
- The actual monetary figure for government support of the present commercial light-water reactor program ranges from $8 to $10 billion, not $40 billion.
- To single out one nuclear power station (CP&L's Brunswick units) and conclude that most nuclear stations do not operate very well is absurd. The actual average capacity factor (availability) of U.S. commercial nuclear power plants for 1982 was 61.0 percent compared with 58.6 percent for comparable coal-fired plants.

The use of *all* reasonable and cost-effective domestic energy sources including nuclear, coal, oil, natural gas, hydro, wood, and solar can lessen this nation's dependence on foreign sources. All energy production presents some risks and dangers. The safety record of the 25-year-old U.S. commercial nuclear power program

is unique among all industrial enterprises. No one has ever been killed as a result of a civilian nuclear power plant accident and the public has been exposed to an insignificant amount of reactor-originated radiation. Yet, the anti-nuclear lobby continues its single-minded, paranoid opposition to nuclear power.

Whether Messrs. Hodges and Spicer will admit it or not, nuclear and coal-fired power plants are *the* only major methods available for the large scale, centralized production of electricity that is absolutely essential for an industrialized nation. They offer no real alternatives because there are none for the forseeable future.

The nuclear option is *the* key to America's energy future. If this nation adopts the full promise of nuclear energy, reprocessing and the breeder reactor can convert the estimated $40-$60 trillion of spent fuel and Uranium-238 already mined and in storage into a virtually unlimited energy resource. This is the ultimate in conservation.

On the other hand, if the "small is beautiful" crowd has their way, our descendants will be condemned to an energy-starved future and this nation will be reduced to a fifth-rate power.

Walter L. Adams, Jr.
Rt. 2, Trenton

Animal Research: A "Nightmare"

I am writing to call the attention of your readers to the "nightmare" of animal research—vivisection.

An estimated 80-90 million animals—dogs, cats, monkeys and apes, rodents, rabbits, sheep, horses, etc., died last year in the U.S. at the hands of scientists and other employees of educational institutions, hospitals and industry. Only about 5 percent were given any kind of anesthetics. Often they suffered intense pain for weeks, months or even years before dying.

Typical experiments include total isolation of infant animals—starvation, freezing, drowning, burning fully conscious animals alive with a blowtorch, inducing cancerous tumors, electric shocks, etc. It is not possible to exaggerate the scope of the atrocities committed against animals.

The public is largely unaware of the tortures being inflicted, because they are done behind closed doors. They are being done by respected individuals who are trusted. They repeatedly tell us such research is necessary for the "advancement of knowledge" and the "survival of humanity."

Evidence of these horrors has been obtained from descriptions of such experiments published in medical and scientific journals and from former research workers. Hundreds of photographs of mutilated animals in obvious agony also serve as evidence.

Other options are available. The Ames Test for carcinogens (agents which cause cancer) is one example. Also, computers are being used to screen the chemical composition of new drugs and to analyze statistical data which ties in the incidence of disease (such as cancer) to factors of diet or exposure to chemicals. This is a much more meaningful way to study the effects of cigarette smoking than attaching dogs to cigarette smoking machines.

In addition, human cells, tissue and organs can now be grown in test tubes and observed for changes due to exposure to various chemicals.

All this is from our supposed civilized world. For more information, contact League Opposing Vivisection Experiments (LOVE), P.O. Box 103, Balsam Grove, N.C. 28708.

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Brenda Galloway
Balsam Groves

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Safety Programs Cited

The North Carolina Safety Council has presented 15 awards to individuals and groups who carried out or provided leadership for safety programs.

The awards are given annually through the Council's Home and Community Safety Awards Program.

The individual award recipients were Murray Gilgo, Hobucken, youth under 13 years of age; Gary Lynn Smith, Gibsonville, youth over 13 years of age; Mrs. Twana Wellman, community service assistant, Winston-Salem, adult volunteer; and Arthur Scott, Forsyth County fire prevention officer, adult professional.

Special category awards were presented to Reed Jarvis, deputy fire marshal, Winston-Salem, fireman; Ellenboro Volunteer Fire Department, Ellenboro, fire department; Mt. Olive Rescue Squad, Mt. Olive, rescue squad and emergency medical services group; Police Corporal J. A. (Bob) Hammons, Winston-Salem, law enforcement officer; and Thomasville Police Department, Thomasville, law enforcement.

Community group awards were presented to Lucky Clovers 4-H Club, Rt. 3, Tarboro, youth group with less than 30 members; Forsyth County 4-H Clubs, Winston-Salem, youth group with more than 30 members; Pitt County Farm Bureau Safety Committee, Greenville, adult group with less than 30 members; and Forsyth 4-H Volunteer Leaders' Association, Winston-Salem, adult group with more than 30 members.

The business and industry group award was presented to the North Carolina Affiliate of the National Society to Prevent Blindness, Raleigh.

The newspaper news media award went to *The Cary News*, Cary.

The Safety Council is an incorporated, nonprofit organization, created in 1960 by a group of community leaders, physicians and representatives of public agencies to promote safety programs and activities.

The Council's activities are financed by dues received through individual, group and agency memberships.

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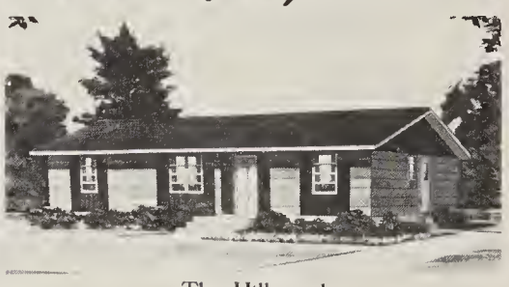

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The Front Porch: A Great Old Institution

What ever happened to that great old institution, the front porch?

When I was a boy, that was the best thing since ice cream cones. Nowadays, if your house has a front porch at all it's just to keep your welcome mat from getting wet.

I remember when a man was judged by the kind of porch he had. His wife took a lot of pride in her porch. Some were real showplaces.

I remember one that would have made the Botanical Gardens look like a burned-out hot house.

There were several kinds of front porches, but the best remembered probably was the Southern, around-the-house kind. You could have chased a cat for days on those.

Porches began to change shortly after the Civil War. First they came off the side of the house, leaving two porches—front and back—thus, the age of the portico.

Then porches actually began to shrink. After they were modified and remodified, the old houses themselves were gone. By the time I came along, porches were hardly a memory of what they had been.

The porches in the country differed from those in town for they had to serve different needs. Country porches had long porch planks of rough-cut lumber laid with cracks between the planks.

As a rule, these porches had no banister—one reason being that it was handy to pile cotton on the end of the porch so if you lacked just a little bit having a load on the wagon, you could stop by the porch and pull a little more on.

The absence of banisters was also handy for the farmer who at this time was still using outdoor plumbing. I can recall times when if I had had to go to the middle of the porch and down the steps to the outhouse, I would never have made it.

Country house porches were the scene of one accomplishment I have never seen anywhere else: across-the-plank rocking.

Now anybody can sit in a rocking chair on a smooth surface and rock very comfortably, but to do it on uneven planks with cracks between them is something else again. If you rocked with the cracks, you would rock yourself out into the yard. A good cross-plank rocker could rock the baby to sleep and bounce enough to burp him without ever missing a rock. This has become one of your lost arts.

There were several kinds of front porches, but the best remembered was the Southern, around-the-house kind. You could have chased a cat for days on those.

The porch I grew up with was a town porch. It was a long affair stretching across the front of the house and serving two families. There were five steps rising to the level of the porch proper. Atop the banister was room for potted plants or other ornaments—which gave the paper boy something to toss the daily paper at.

Porches back in those days had personality. They were extensions of the people who lived inside the house. It seemed to me that the house belonged to the porch rather than the porch belonging to the house.

Porches were serious business. If there was an argument, it was usually settled on the porch. If you could not settle it the porch was a good place to throw someone off of. Most proposals of marriage were made on the front porch in the swing. Lovers considered it their Shangri-La. Yard dogs considered the front porch their personal property.

On rainy days you could go out on the front porch with a rolled up newspaper and kill flies while waiting for the rain to stop. At night you could sit on the porch and listen to ghost stories. And the old folks would always talk about when they were young so you would know how good you had it.

After supper everyone would go to the front porch and the men would prop their feet on the banister, the women would rock and the kids would sit on the floor and hang their feet between the banister rails.

Now tell me, if you can, what happened to all this? The blame can't all be placed on television. I think I know what happened and I may be able to answer some nagging questions that might have crossed a few minds other than mine.

For example: The reason there's a hanging pot craze is because there's no banister to put pots on. Kids never bring their dates home because there's no porch to sit on. Neighbors can't settle arguments because there's no porch to yell across.

We all had to buy paper boxes to put next to the mail box because there's no porch to sit on in the rain with a rolled-up newspaper in hand. Television became so popular because there's no porch.

That's how I see it. Now I ask you, was it worth it?

—Don Barker

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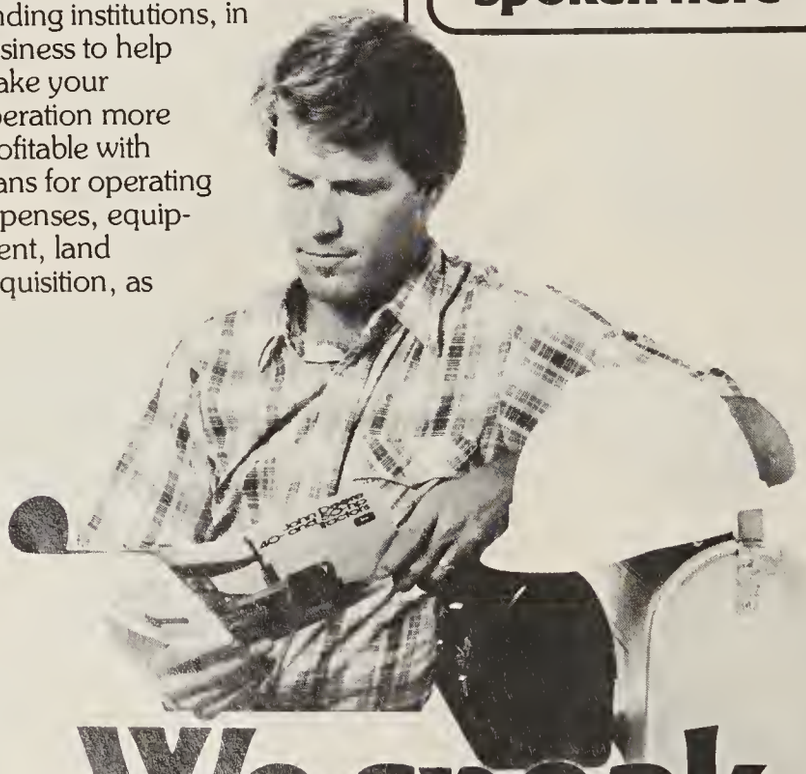

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Tar Heel Book Club Offering Five Titles

The North Carolina Book Club's spring offerings include two collections by noted authors, a new guide to North Carolina's historically and culturally significant sights, a study of changes in the Appalachian region and a collection of essays on the South by journalist Gerald W. Johnson.

The N.C. Book Club, a project of the private, non-profit N.C. Literary and Historical Association, is offering these selections:

- *This Quiet Dust and Other Writings*, nonfiction pieces by novelist William Styron, a Duke University graduate.
- *Mustian*, a collection of two novels and one short story by Reynolds Price focusing on the Mustian family. Included are the novels *A Generous Man* and *A Long and Happy Life* and the short story *A Chain of Love*. All three pieces have been published previously.
- *Tar Heel Sights: Guide to North Carolina's Heritage* by Marguerite Schumann, a soft-cover volume that offers capsuled descriptions of various sites across the state.
- *Mines, Millhands and Mountaineers: Industrialization of the Appalachian South, 1880-1930* by Ronald D. Eller of Mars Hill College.
- *South-Watching: Selected Essays* by Gerald W. Johnson, edited by Fred Hobson.

These titles and a backlist of more than 40 other books can be ordered through the N.C. Book Club at prices that are lower than those at bookstores. The club operates on a prepaid plan, which means no books are shipped until an order is received.

For a free brochure describing all currently offered titles and detailing about how to purchase books, write or call Frances W. Kunstling, coordinator, 109 E. Jones St., Raleigh, N.C. 27611. Phone: (919) 733-5722.

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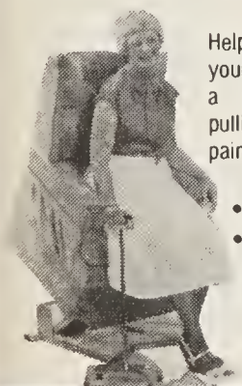

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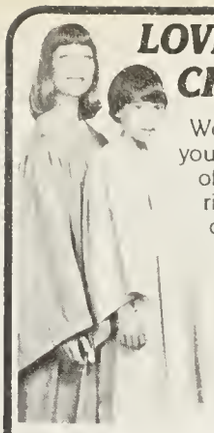

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From Duke's Comprehensive Cancer Center

An Eye Pleasing "New Look" At Cancer

If a short-order cook had been put to work on this order, it might have read like this: One eye-pleasing booklet on cancer. Use lots of meat-and-potatoes facts; blend well with top quality color photos for proper seasoning. Add side order of gourmet illustrations. Hold the gloom.

In this case, the order came out of the creative "kitchens" of the Duke University Comprehensive Cancer Center, where medical specialists, a science writer and an advertising agency teamed up to produce the attractive dish.

The magazine-style booklet, *Stay Healthy America! A New Look At What You Should Know About Cancer,* is full of bright photos of healthy people doing all sorts of healthy things.

It features important information about cancer from Duke's medical experts, written in layman's language with design by an Atlanta advertising agency for maximum appeal for the general reader.

The inspiration for the booklet came from Dr. Seymour Grufferman, director of the cancer prevention and control program at the Duke Center.

"When I was studying for my degree, I thought it would be terrific for preventive medicine people and advertising people to team up," he said. "This booklet is the result of that kind of partnership."

Grufferman, who wrote the booklet with the help of *Popular Science* magazine Science Editor Arthur Fisher, said the publication avoids the pitfalls of other cancer material that is usually plain, poorly written, too technical, dull, lifeless and full of gloom.

This publication will get attention and communicate, he said.

"People will pick it up because it's attractive, No. 1. And No. 2, it's written in a format of a doctor talking to his patient. It's an interesting venture because we got some communication pros."

"It does some things you don't often see in this sort of publication. It takes the fear out of cancer"

The development of the booklet was sponsored by American Family Corp. of Columbus, Ga., whose subsidiary, American Family Life Assurance Co., sells cancer insurance. The firm pumped in $250,000. Duke University is covering additional costs by charging $2 for each copy of the booklet.

The emphasis on life and liveliness is no accident, Grufferman said. People fear cancer, and they don't like to talk and read about things that scare them. So the challenge facing the team was to come up with a booklet that people would want to read despite their natural reluctance.

"I think we've done that," he said.

Michael H. Rhodes, vice-president and director of public information for American Family, said he's pleased with the publication.

"It does some things you don't often see in this sort of publication," he said. "It takes the fear out of cancer."

Some of Dr. Grufferman's inspiration came to him during a recent trip to the source of the Blue Nile in a remote part of Africa.

He had traveled deep into the continent, hiking far into the jungles of Ethiopia.

"And there in the middle of nowhere was this little Ethiopian boy selling Coca-Cola," he said, "and we marveled at how we can sell a product like Coca-Cola worldwide, but we can't do a thing about marketing public health."

It was then that he became determined to use modern marketing techniques to hawk cancer information. American Family was looking for the same thing, so the bargain was struck.

Plans are in the works for yearly revisions to update questions and answers. Information about new research would also be added.

Copies of the publication can be obtained by sending $2 to: Cancer Booklet, Box 3958, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, N.C. 27710.

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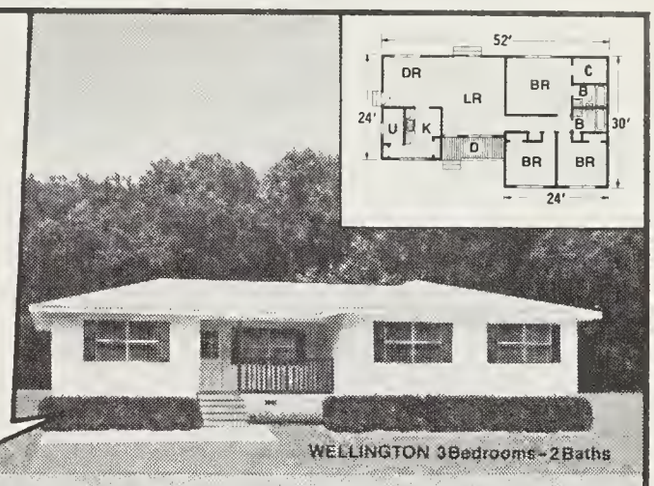

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Believe it or not, you *CAN* save as much as $58,000 on a new home, built on your property and financed by Jim Walter. What's more, your home will be paid for in 20, rather than 30 years, and your monthly payment to Jim Walter will be less . . . *MUCH LESS!* It sounds unbelievable, but it's *TRUE!* It's a *FACT* and we can prove it! While most other home financing is 13% or more. Jim Walter's annual percentage rate is still only 10%. For comparison, your monthly payment on a $35,000, 30-year mortgage at 13% would be $387.17. The monthly payment for a home with this cash price, built and financed by Jim Walter, would be only $337.70 . . . almost $50.00 less. That's fifty of your hard-earned dollars, and for only 240, not 360 monthly payments. Based on this comparison, the *TOTAL SAVINGS* on your mortgage will actually be *MORE THAN $58,000. IT'S A FACT!!!*

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JIM WALTER HOMES (Mail to nearest office)

I would like to have more information and the cost of building on my property. I understand there would be no obligation to buy and that you would give me these facts free of charge.

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I own property in _____ County

Just Tell Old Uncle Sam To "Charge It!"

In case you haven't noticed lately, there's been a subtle but significant change in the way the federal bureaucrats are dispensing much of the information they generate at taxpayer expense: they charge for it.

I was reminded of this policy change when I received a recent edition of a newsletter produced by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, which is headquartered in Washington.

In an accompanying note, editor Paul Wesslund mentioned his own misgivings about this new order of things in the nation's capital.

He said he'd called the Energy Department to get a copy of a new report on energy use in the U.S. during 1982. Its price: $6.50

"In these Reaganseque days," he wrote "I have learned to swallow hard and at least tolerate the fact that taxpaying citizens such as myself have to pay to get public information from tax-supported agencies.

"But I found myself perplexed and troubled when the woman at the end of the line solved the problems of getting money across town by asking if I'd like to put the charge on a credit card. I meekly read my VISA number with a growing sense of unease.

"Convenient? You bet.

"But really, where will this lead? Will co-op managers pull out their Diners Club cards to charge a loan from the REA? Can it be long before the government issues its own credit card?

"Will Ronald Reagan flash his Americharge card to buy a ticket on Air Force One? (Do you know who I am? . . . Don't leave the White House without it.)

"Do you think the IRS might someday accept American Express?"

Creative Cliches From Pilot Mountain Children

Our item last month about the creative twists children can put on familiar cliches drew a response from Nancy Downs, a teacher at Pilot Mountain Elementary School.

She asked gifted and talented students in her fourth, fifth and sixth grade classes to fill in the endings on several cliches. Here are some of the results:

If at first you don't succeed, **get mad and tear it up.**

All that glitters **will get dusty and dim.**

Out of sight out of **light.**

The early bird gets **baggy eyes.**

All work and no play makes John **an adult.**

Too many cooks **make a full kitchen.**

If at first you don't succeed, **go and pout in your room.**

You can't teach an old dog **to use new fire hydrants.**

Don't bite off more than you can **spit out.**

If at first you don't succeed, **pay someone else to do it.**

People who live in glass houses **must like to buy a lot of bandaids.**

In one ear and **through the cob.**

Don't cut off your nose to spite your **sinuses.**

All that glitters **turns to rust.**

If at first you don't succeed, **don't do it.**

Better late than **later.**

If at first you don't succeed, **see a doctor.**

A penny saved is **nothing today.**

In one ear and **out the headphone.**

The early bird gets the **afternoon nap.**

All work and no play makes John a **Grouch.**

Don't judge a book by its **curse words.**

An apple a day keeps the **worm full.**

If at first you don't succeed **never try again because it's not worth it.**

Too many cooks spoil **school lunches.**

An Encounter With A "Fillum Star" Hero

Patty Wheeler, who left our fold about a year ago to take over *The Skyland Post* in West Jefferson, never dreamed that the move would put her in a position to land an interview with her all-time-favorite movie hero.

But when actor Gregory Peck visited Winston-Salem recently for the dedication of the School of the Arts Theatre, she approached him about doing an interview—and found him most accommodating about it.

As if that weren't enough of a thrill for her, she received a personal note from Peck after sending him a copy of the *Post* that carried her front-page feature about the actor.

There have been reports that her feet haven't touched the ground since.

In the note, Peck thanked her for the "excellent" story, adding: "I cannot, in modesty, comment on the favorable view of me you presented to your readers. I am very glad, however, that it was not unfavorable."

He pointed out that the photo accompanying the story made him realize how much he's coming to resemble his father.

"My father spent his boyhood in County Kerry, in Ireland, and never quite lost the brogue. To him,I was always 'his son, the fillum star.'

"My wife and I look forward to visiting Ashe County, and to renewing our acquaintance."

—*Owen Bishop*

EMC ANNUAL MEETINGS CALENDAR...

Date	Electric Membership Corporation	Time	Location
June			
11	Blue Ridge, Lenoir	Refreshments, entertainment, energy displays: 8:00 a.m. Business Meeting with entertainment by Jeanne Pruett: 10:00 a.m.	Ashe Central High School, Jefferson
17	Piedmont, Hillsborough	Registration, entertainment by the Dixie Melody Boys: 7:30 p.m. Business Meeting: 8:00 p.m.	Orange High School Auditorium
July			
15	Randolph Randolph, Asheboro	Registration: 6:00 p.m. Business Meeting: 8:00 p.m.	Lee Stone Stadium, Asheboro
Aug.			
19	Pee Dee, Wadesboro	Registration: 7:30 p.m. Business Meeting: 8:00 p.m.	Bowman High School, Wadesboro
27	Haywood, Waynesville	Registration: 9:00 a.m. Business Meeting: 10:30 a.m.	Tuscola High School, Waynesville
	Roanoke, Rich Square	Registration: 10:00 a.m. Business Meeting: 1:30 p.m.	Headquarters, Rich Square

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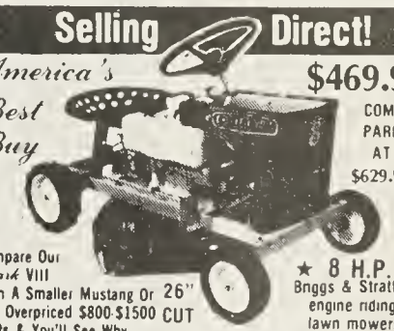

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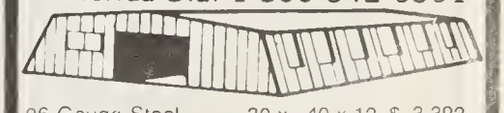

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